



**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A system comprising:  
a primary root splitter to split a data stream transmitted from an upstream server into a plurality of leaf splitter streams;  
a plurality of leaf splitters to split each of said leaf splitter streams into a plurality of end user streams, wherein one or more of said plurality of leaf splitters is a backup root splitter;  
a monitoring subsystem to monitor the status of the primary root splitter;  
and  
an agent to reconfigure one of said backup root splitters as a new primary root splitter responsive to detecting a problem with said primary root splitter, said new primary root splitter to split the data stream transmitted from the upstream server.
2. (Previously presented) The system as in claim 1 further comprising a load balancer module to direct client streaming requests to particular leaf splitters based on relative load on said leaf splitters.

3. (Currently amended) The system as in claim 1 further comprising a redirection subsystem to redirect client streaming requests to a particular point of presence site.

4. (Previously presented) The system as in claim 2 further comprising load balancer update logic for removing said backup leaf splitter from said plurality of leaf splitters to which said load balancer directs user streaming requests responsive to said backup root splitter being reassigned as a primary root splitter.

5. (Previously presented) The system as in claim 3 further comprising redirection subsystem update logic for notifying said redirection subsystem of said new primary root splitter responsive to said backup splitter being reconfigured as said new primary root splitter.

6. (Previously presented) The system as in claim 5 wherein said redirection subsystem update logic transmits said new primary root splitter's IP address to said redirection subsystem.

7. (Previously presented) The system as in claim 1 further comprising publish point update logic for updating publishing points within said system responsive to said backup root server being reassigned as said primary root server.

8. (Previously presented) The system as in claim 1 further comprising:

a primary root splitter agent to periodically transmit a heartbeat signal to said monitoring subsystem, the heartbeat signal indicating that said primary root splitter is operating within normal parameters.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously presented) The system as in claim 8 wherein said monitoring subsystem transmits a monitor signal to said primary root splitter agent, and wherein not receiving a response from said primary root splitter agent indicates a problem with said primary root splitter.

11. (Currently amended) A computerized method comprising:

monitoring status of a primary root splitter to ensure that said primary root splitter is operating within predefined parameters, said primary root splitter to split a single data stream transmitted from an upstream server into multiple data streams transmitted to multiple leaf splitters, the leaf splitters to split each of said leaf splitter streams into a plurality of end user streams, wherein one or more of said plurality of leaf splitters is a backup root splitter;

detecting a problem with the primary root splitter; and

reconfiguring one of said leaf splitters as a new primary root splitter responsive to detecting that said primary root splitter is not operating within said predefined parameters, said new primary root splitter to split a single data stream transmitted from the upstream server into multiple data streams transmitted to multiple leaf splitters.

12. (Previously presented) The computerized method of claim 11 further comprising:

updating a load balancer module to indicate that said backup leaf splitter is reassigned as a primary root splitter, said load balancer module for distributing user streaming requests to one or more of said leaf splitters based on load on each of said leaf splitters.

13. (Previously presented) The computerized method as in claim 11 further comprising:

updating a redirection subsystem to indicate that said backup leaf splitter is reconfigured as a primary root splitter, said redirection subsystem for directing client streaming requests to a particular point of presence site.

14. (Previously presented) The computerized method of claim 13 further comprising:

updating a load balancer module at said point of presence site to indicate that said backup leaf splitter is reassigned as a new primary root splitter, said load balancer module for distributing user streaming requests to one or more of said leaf splitters at said point of presence site based on load on each of said leaf splitters.

15. (Previously presented) The computerized method as in claim 13 wherein updating said redirection subsystem comprises transmitting said new primary root splitter's IP address to said redirection subsystem.

16. (Previously presented) The computerized method as in claim 11 further comprising:

updating one or more broadcast publish points to indicate said new primary root splitter.

17-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently amended) An article of manufacture including a sequence of instructions which, when executed by a processor, cause said processor to:

monitor status of a primary root splitter to ensure that said primary root splitter is operating within predefined parameters, said primary root splitter to split a single data stream into multiple data streams transmitted to multiple leaf splitters, the leaf splitters to split each of said leaf splitter streams into a plurality of end user streams, wherein one or more of said plurality of leaf splitters is a backup root splitter;

detect a problem with the primary root splitter; and

reconfigure one of said leaf splitters as a new primary root splitter responsive to detecting that said primary root splitter is not operating within said predefined parameters, said new primary root splitter to split the data stream into multiple data streams.

23. (Original) The article of manufacture as in claim 22 including additional instructions which, when executed by said processor, cause said processor to:

update a load balancer module to indicate that said leaf splitter is reassigned as a primary root splitter, said load balancer module for distributing

user streaming requests to one or more of said leaf splitters based on load on each of said leaf splitters.

24. (Original) The article of manufacture as in claim 23 including additional instructions which, when executed by said processor, cause said processor to:

update a redirection subsystem to indicate that said leaf splitter is reassigned as a primary root splitter, said redirection subsystem for directing client streaming requests to a particular point of presence site.